

Franklin County Council
May 12, 2015
Commissioners/Council Meeting Room 203

Council: Becky Oglesby, Keith Hall, Aaron Leffingwell, Daryl Kramer, Jeff Koch, Joe Sizemore, Dean McQueen

Auditor: Debbie Richardson, 1st Deputy

Open: The meeting was called to order by President Becky Oglesby and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. President Oglesby welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2016 Target Budget: Councilman Leffingwell and Kramer handed out the 2016 Target Budget. They explained their information and stated by a 2% deduction to the 2015 budget the 2016 expected income equals: 2.1% Non-Farm Increase in tax, added 2% to CAGIT collections and Misc. income remains the same. They asked that you do not compare to last year's charts as more funds are added. By cutting the 2% every year it is possible to have a balanced budget in 4 years.

Insurance: a question was asked by Mildred Simmermeyer from the audience regarding Health Insurance. She wanted to know how much it cost. Councilman Kramer stated that \$780,000.00 was budgeted from the Commissioners Budget and 102 – 105 employees take the insurance. Ms. Simmermeyer stated that she pays more in subsidy plan of Medicare than the employees pay. Councilman Hall asked if we want to address the Health Care issue and Councilman Leffingwell stated that the Commissioners set the plan. Councilman Hall then gave out info on the Franklin County Health Care. He explained in depth details of the Insurance Cost. Ms. Simmermeyer stated that she doesn't like what she is seeing.

Public Safety: a motion was made by Daryl Kramer to have Attorney Reeves prepare an ordinance with regard to the Public Safety Tax. President Oglesby said the public safety tax is higher rate of tax increase for the public: ½% the 1st year and ¼% in the 2nd year. She stated the County Council has not even tried to stain the budget yet. She also state she got the 2016 target Budget at 4:00PM and more time is needed to review. Also a possibility is Cum Cap increase of 2%. Councilman Koch wants the Attorney to look at all 3 alternative and give deadline, pros and cons. Councilman McQueen said he thought Public Safety tax is the best solution. Councilman Hall said that he doesn't think Council has done sufficient job of trying to contain cost without tax increase. Councilman Leffingwell said (1) Public Safety Tax is only ¼% NOT ½%, (2) Wheel Tax goes to Highway and we would need confirmation from the Commissioners that they will share, (3) Cum Cap – for capital purchase. President Oglesby said covering a lot of information. Discussed cutting 2% each year for 4 years. Daryl Kramer amended his motion and Aaron Leffingwell 2nd motion to have the Attorney look at all three taxes for study and report before the 5/26/ meeting. Motion carried. President Oglesby stated that the growth quotient will be for 2.5% which she received from DLGF.

Office Reductions: Keith Hall said there are some offices that should do reductions and asked that they come to budget workshop – hearing with reason they cannot cut if they don't: Commissioners, Assessor, Clerk and Circuit Court. Mr. Hall went through the Salary Ordinance from 2001-2015 and that 3 departments have a greater staff level than 15 years ago: Clerk, Prosecuting Attorney and Assessor. These offices have opportunities for reductions and asking that they address at the Budget Hearings/Workshop. Departments that are at the lowest staffing level of 19 counties are: Auditor,

Treasurer, Recorder and Probation. He also stated that 4 out of 19 counties where commissioners have an Administrative Assistant or Secretary. This is why the Commissioners are on the list.

Other Business: It was noted by Councilman Leffingwell that all of this started snow balling with the loss of the riverboat money.

Dean McQueen said we need to have the Public Safety Tax and Mildred Simmermeyer said to Dean you were not in favor of a tax increase so why are you now. McQueen gave no response.

Aaron Leffingwell has a letter to present to department Heads with regard to preparing their budgets of which he is asking them to not change last year's budget.

Keith Hall said we need to ask for 2% DECREASE NOT FLAST AS LAST YEAR. He said if we only ask the Department Heads to submit same as last year, why present 2016 Target Budget asking for 2% cut.

Keith Hall presented the Franklin County Budget Tracking Tool.

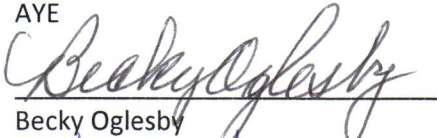
Becky Oglesby said the County Council has to be more vigilant about how money is used and moved around.

Aaron Leffingwell left letter flat for Department Heads because some depts. were cut deep and some not at all. He said he will send letter he has created to Becky Oglesby and she will add cut 2% to letter and send. County Council will review each individually at budge workshop. She also will write the Attorney about the tax increases.

Adjourn: with no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Joe Sizemore and Dean McQueen 2nd. Motion carried.


Others in attendance: Ray Richardson, Linda Hall, Mark and Mildred Simmermeyer, Lou and Diane Wendell, Shane Scott, Melissa Angel, Kurt Grimmiesson, Karla Bauman, Debbie Blank, Monica Yane, John Estridge, Gerald Bischoff, Don Smith, Andrew Naumann, Kenneth A. Murphy, Jeff Batchler, Paul Bischoff and Tom Rasnick.

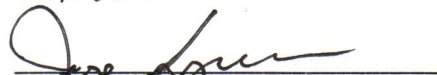
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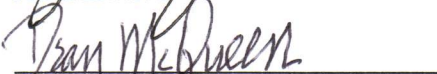

Becky Oglesby


Keith Hall


Aaron Leffingwell


Daryl Kramer


Joe Sizemore


Dean McQueen

NAY

Becky Oglesby

Keith Hall

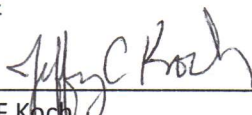
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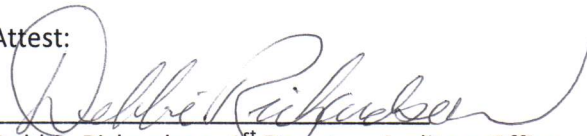


JEFF KOCH

NAY

Jeff Koch

Attest:



Debbie Richardson, 1st Deputy – Auditors Office